

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 53

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to designate October 2-8, 2011, as "Mental Illness Awareness Week" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, severe anxiety disorders, borderline personality disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorders affect one in every four people annually; and

WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses are more common than cancer, diabetes, and heart disease and are the number one reason for hospital admissions nationwide; and

WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses have been scientifically proven to be highly treatable illnesses of the brain; and

WHEREAS, scientific research is producing tremendous breakthroughs in the understanding of mental illnesses, resulting in more effective treatments that allow people to reclaim full and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, misunderstandings exist about many mental illnesses, and our social culture often wrongly imposes stigma on them; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby join with citizens from across this State in recognizing October 2 through October 8, 2011, as Mental Illness Awareness Week in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to commemorate this week by increasing their understanding of mental illness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.